

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 15-826V

Filed: December 18, 2015

Unpublished

MARY PONSNESS,

*

*

Petitioner,

*

*

*

SECRETARY OF HEALTH

*

AND HUMAN SERVICES,

*

*

Respondent.

*

*

Paul R. Brazil, Muller Brazil, LLP, Dresher, PA, for petitioner.

Lara Ann Englund, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for respondent.

.

DECISION AWARDING DAMAGES¹

Dorsey, Chief Special Master:

On August 3, 2015, petitioner filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*,² [the “Vaccine Act” or “Program”]. Petitioner alleges that she suffered shoulder injuries as a result of her January 11, 2013 influenza [“flu”] vaccination. Petition at 1. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On December 15, 2015, a ruling on entitlement was issued, finding petitioner entitled to compensation for shoulder injury related to vaccine administration [“SIRVA”]. On December 18, 2015, respondent filed a proffer on award of compensation [“Proffer”] indicating petitioner should be awarded \$95,000.00. Proffer at 1. In the Proffer, respondent represented that petitioner agrees with the proffered award. Based on the

¹ Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, the undersigned intends to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002, Pub. L. No. 107-347, § 205, 116 Stat. 2899, 2913 (codified as amended at 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2006)). In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, the undersigned agrees that the identified material fits within this definition, the undersigned will redact such material from public access.

² National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all “§” references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

record as a whole, the undersigned finds that petitioner is entitled to an award as stated in the Proffer.

Pursuant to the terms stated in the attached Proffer, **the undersigned awards petitioner a lump sum payment of \$95,000.00 in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Mary Ponsness.** This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under § 300aa-15(a).

The clerk of the court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.³

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Nora Beth Dorsey

Nora Beth Dorsey
Chief Special Master

³ Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment can be expedited by the parties' joint filing of notice renouncing the right to seek review.

**IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS**

MARY PONSNESS,)	
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	
v.)	No. 15-826V
)	Chief Special Master Nora Beth Dorsey
SECRETARY OF)	
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,)	
)	
Respondent.)	
)	

RESPONDENT’S PROFFER ON AWARD OF COMPENSATION

I. Compensation for Vaccine Injury-Related Items

Respondent proffers that, based on the evidence of record, petitioner should be awarded \$95,000.00. This amount represents all elements of compensation to which petitioner would be entitled under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a)(1); -15(a)(3)(A); and -15(a)(4). Petitioner agrees.

II. Form of the Award

The parties recommend that the compensation provided to petitioner should be made as a lump sum payment of \$95,000.00, in the form of a check payable to petitioner.¹ Petitioner is a competent adult. Evidence of guardianship is not required in this case. This amount accounts for all elements of compensation under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a) to which petitioner would be entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

BENJAMIN C. MIZER
Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General

¹ Should petitioner die prior to entry of judgment, respondent would oppose any award for future medical expenses, future lost earnings, and future pain and suffering, and the parties reserve the right to move the Court for appropriate relief.

RUPA BHATTACHARYYA
Director
Torts Branch, Civil Division

VINCENT J. MATANOSKI
Deputy Director
Torts Branch, Civil Division

LYNN E. RICCIARDELLA
Senior Trial Attorney
Torts Branch, Civil Division

s/ LARA A. ENGLUND
LARA A. ENGLUND
Trial Attorney
Torts Branch, Civil Division
U.S. Department of Justice
P.O. Box 146 Benjamin Franklin Station
Washington D.C. 20044-0146
Tel: (202) 307-3013
E-mail: lara.a.englund@usdoj.gov

Dated: December 18, 2015